March Comes in Like a Lion

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How is it? We'd love to hear feedback, please drop by.

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Chapter. 62

Kingdom ①

Just now it went crunch and then came a bloop!
IT'S SO GOOD!
OH WOW...
THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR ALL THI-
YUMMY!
Huuuuuh?!
Momo's is cut katsudon
AND I SEALED IT TOGETHER WITH A NICE, GOOEY EGG!
IT'S FRESHLY FRIED,
ISN'T IT?!

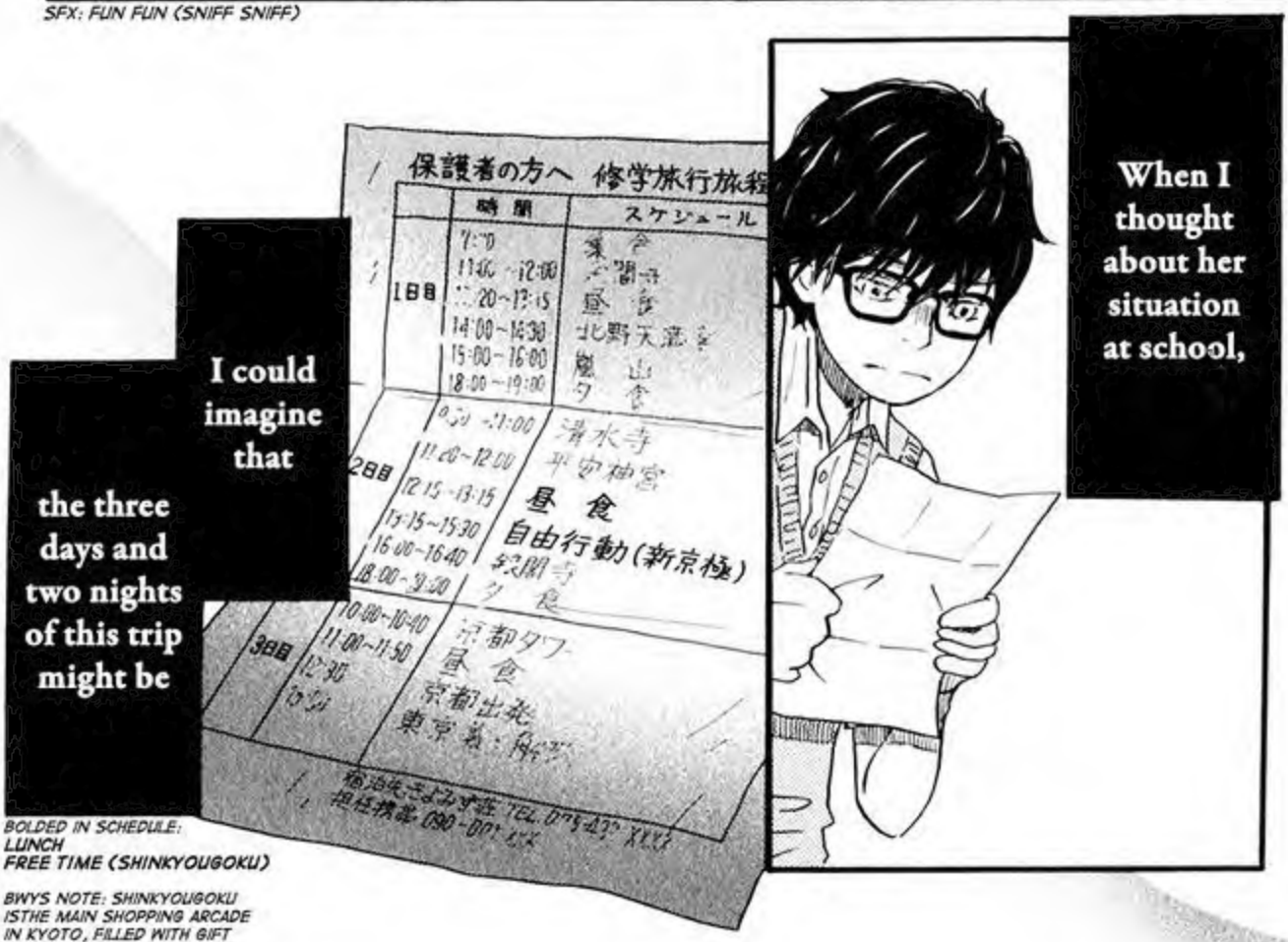
BWYS NOTE: KATSU IS PORK CUTLET, AND KATSUDON IS PORK CUTLET RICE BOWL. IN JAPANESE, "CUTLET" AND "WIN" ARE HOMOPHONES

SFX: MOKKU MOKKKU (CHEW CHEW)
SO YOU'RE HEADING TO OSAKA TOMORROW?
YEAH.
THEY HAVE A FEW ROOMS WE CAN STAY IN AT THE KANSAI SHOGI ASSOCIATION BUILDING...
SO I'LL BE STAYING THERE.
YOU HAVE TO TRAVEL IN ADVANCE FOR THESE SORTS OF THINGS, RIGHT?
HINA IS GETTING ON THE SHINKANSEN TOMORROW AT 8.
YOU NEED TO BE AT SCHOOL AT 7, RIGHT?
MAYBE WE SHOULD GET THE BATH READY NOW SINCE YOU'RE GETTING UP EARLY.
AH, OKAY.
むっくむっく
Right, Hina-chan has her school trip starting tomorrow.
She's going to Kyoto for three days and two nights...
BUY ME A SOUVENIR, OKAY, HINA-CHAN☆
OKAY!

.....
SFX: PATA...
THANKS FOR THE MEAL...
OH? WHAT'S WRONG?
THAT'S ALL YOU'RE HAVING?
SFX: KYU...
I KIND OF...
I DUNNO. MY TUMMY HURTS...
ARE YOU OKAY? MAYBE IT WAS TOO GREASY...
THIS IS UNUSUAL. YOU DON'T GET TUMMY ACHES MUCH.
DO YOU WANT SOME MEDICINE?
...OKAY.
HINA-CHAN,
DO YOU THINK...

MAYBE IF WE WARM YOUR BACK A BIT, IT WILL MAKE YOU FEEL BETTER...
YES, LAY ON YOUR RIGHT SIDE...
MM.
THANK YOU...
Is she feeling down?
Is Hina-chan okay?
THAT MAYBE
IT'S YOUR STOMACH THAT'S HURTING?

SFX: FUN FUN (SNIFF SNIFF)



BOLDED IN SCHEDULE:
LUNCH
FREE TIME (SHINKYOUGOKU)

BWYS NOTE: SHINKYOUGOKU ISTHE MAIN SHOPPING ARCADE IN KYOTO, FILLED WITH GIFT SHOPSAND FAMOUS AMONG STUDENT TRAVELLERS.

ARE YOU OKAY?
ABOUT KYOTO.
YOU DON'T HAVE TO FORCE YOURSELF TO GO.
something pretty difficult...
NO,
I'LL GO.
I FEEL LIKE...
I'VE GOT TO GO.
OTHERWISE,
EVEN AFTER I BECOME AN ADULT...
AND YEARS TO COME,
FOR YEARS
I FEEL LIKE I'LL REGRET IT
日の湯

Back then,
Takahashi-kun, who had said in that moment, "I understand"...
I WANTED TO KNOW THAT I DIDN'T RUN AWAY.
SO,
I'M NOT SURE HOW TO SAY THIS,
BUT YOU WANTED TO ELIMINATE THAT KIND OF FEELING, RIGHT?
...HINA-CHAN,
I'M GONNA WIN, OKAY?
I'M
DEFINITELY GONNA WIN.

right in front of me,
Now,
Nikaidou, who had kept playing until he collapsed...
Hina-chan...
I'LL DEFINITELY
COME BACK VICTORIOUS.
so that they can win their right
They're fighting.
.....
YOU CAN ORDER ANYTHING
AND EVERYTHING YOU WANT.
THANK YOU, KIRIYAMA-KUN.
OKAY.
Everyone is fighting
SO, WHEN YOUR TUMMY FEELS BETTER,
WE CAN ALL GO TO THE SWEETS SHOP TOGETHER.

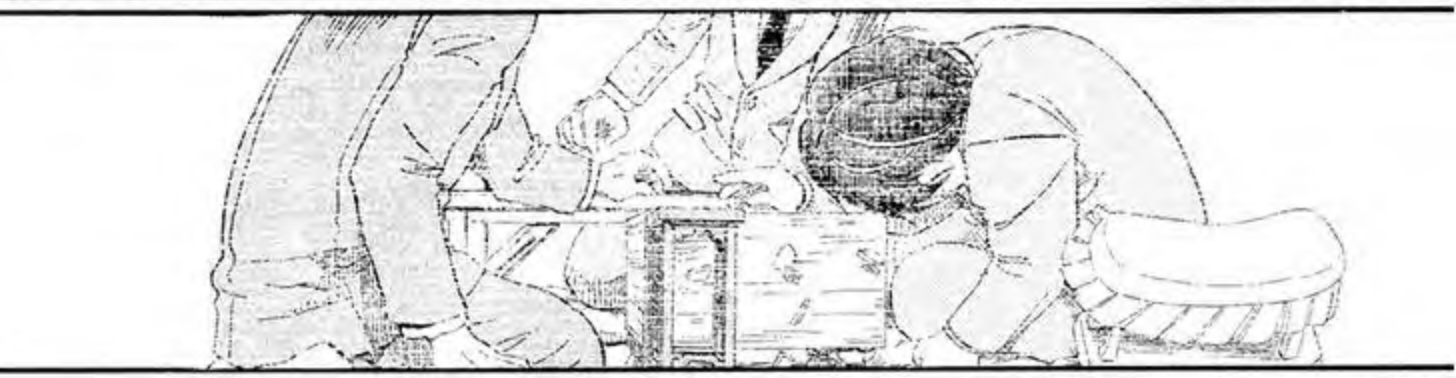
SFX: DANNN
SFX: PIPIPI
SFX: PIPIPIPI
SFX: TOTON TATAN...
HUH?
WHERE AM I?
SFX: TATAN TOTON
to their one little place in the world.
SFX: KASA...
Ah, right.
Osaka...
—I

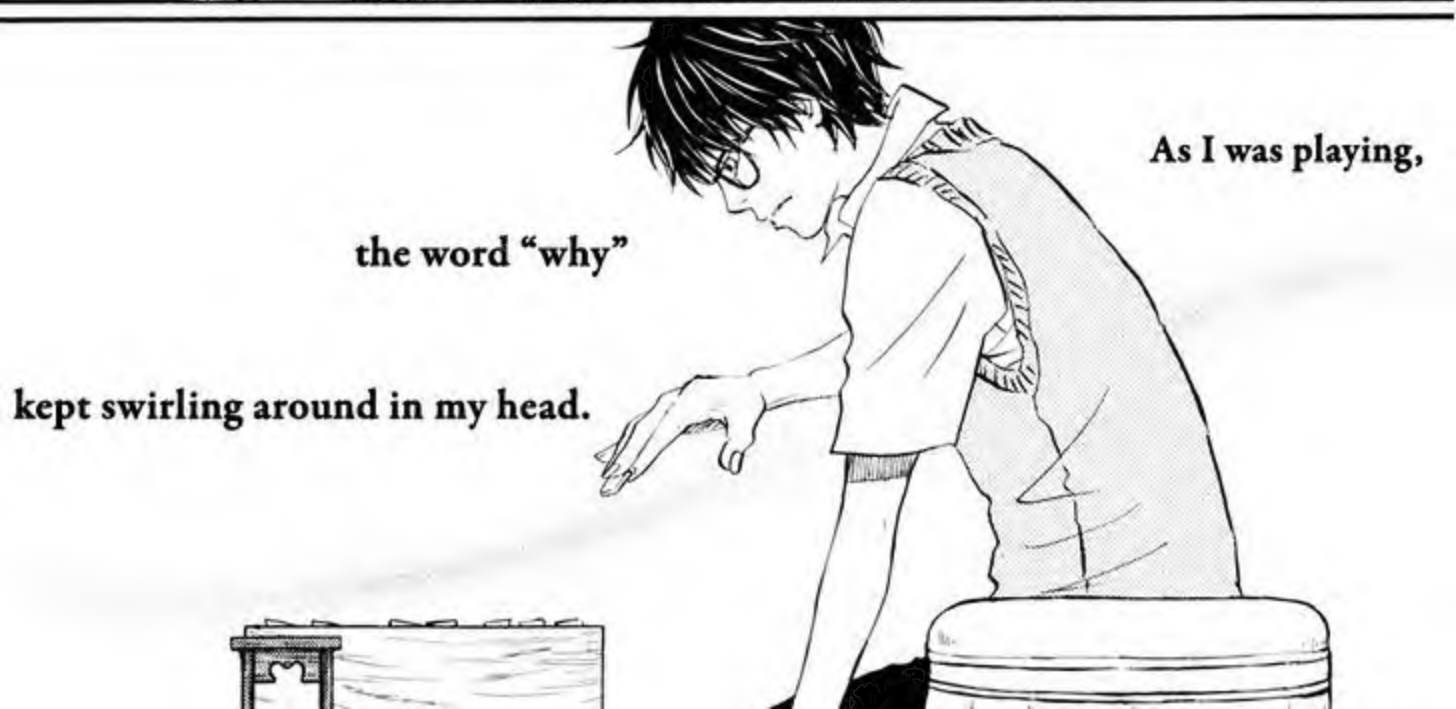
The Newcomer Championship is a stage to showcase the players
here
room
the right
the finals, each player has 9 hours
and it's all
over game.
The match will probably
live until
night fall.

Thinking back on it now...
I wouldn't have much memories...
when he said those words...

SFX: PASHIHH
SFX: PACHIH
I'M
YAMA-
ZAKI
JUNKEI.
The air quivers only at the sound of the pieces.
It's quiet.
SFX: PASHIIH

He's solid as a rock.
Looks like he's drawing this into a battle of attrition...
Straight to a ranging hisha anaguma, huh?
SFX: KAHH




As I was playing,
the word "why"
kept swirling around in my head.

So why
did you drag the game into a draw by repetition?
I could feel it when I saw the kifu...
You had plenty of play options left, didn't you?
"Because I didn't have a mating move."
Those people from before said you had "fought the proper way"...
ALL JUNKEI-SENPAI DID WAS FIGHT THE PROPER WAY.
NO MATTER WHAT KIND OF STATE YOUR OPPONENT IS IN, THE PROPER ETIQUETTE IS TO TRY TO DEFEAT HIM WITH ALL YOU'VE GOT!!
MANAGING YOUR HEALTH IS A PART OF SHOGI, TOO.
WELL, I CAN'T BLAME HIM.

If putting the burden on other people is "proper",
rather than conquering your own problem of being able to read far enough ahead,
then I have only one thing to say to that

Screw you.

Chapter 62 END